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Dated: June 24, 1997.

Mark W. Stiles,
District Manager.

[FR Doc. 97-16990 Filed 6-26-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-JB-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[ID-933-07-1990-00]

Mining Claims Under the General Mining Laws; Surface Management: Forms of Legal Financial Guarantees Allowable Under Idaho State Law

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) amended the surface management regulations at 43 CFR subpart 3809 on February 28, 1997 (62 FR 9093). The amendment requires each BLM State Director to consult with the appropriate State authorities to determine which financial instruments in 43 CFR 3809.1-9(k) are allowable under State law. Idaho State law allows surety bonds, cash, irrevocable letters of credit, certificates of deposit, and negotiable United States Government, State, and Municipal securities or bonds as forms of financial guarantees related to reclamation requirements.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This list is effective May 30, 1997.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Terry Maley, Bureau of Land Management, Idaho State Office, Division of Resource Services, 1387 S. Vinnell Way, Boise, Idaho 83709-1657, 208-373-3820.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Bureau of Land Management has consulted with appropriate Idaho State authorities to determine which of the financial instruments in § 3809.1-9(k) are allowable under Idaho State law to satisfy the financial assurance requirements related to mining reclamation requirements. The State of Idaho, Idaho Department of Lands has determined the following forms of financial guarantees are allowable under Idaho State Law: Surety bonds, cash, irrevocable letters of credit, certificates of deposit, and negotiable United States

Government, State, and Municipal securities or bonds.

Martha G. Hahn,
State Director.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[WY-920-00-4120-14; North Rochelle Tract, WYW127221]

Competitive Coal Lease Sale Offering, WY

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of competitive coal lease sale.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that certain coal resources in the North Rochelle Tract (formerly known as the North Roundup Tract) described below in Campbell County, Wyoming, will be offered for competitive lease by sealed bid in accordance with the provisions of the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended (30 U.S.C. 181 *et seq.*).

DATES: The lease sale will be held at 2 p.m., Tuesday, July 29, 1997. Sealed bids must be submitted on or before 4 p.m., Monday, July 28, 1997.

ADDRESSES: The lease sale will be held in the 1st Floor Conference Room (Room 107) of the Wyoming State Office, 5353 Yellowstone Road, Cheyenne, Wyoming 82009. Sealed bids clearly marked "Sealed Bid for North Rochelle Tract, WYW127221—Not to be opened before 2 p.m., on Tuesday, July 29, 1997", must be submitted to the Cashier, Wyoming State Office, at the address given above or P.O. Box 1828, Cheyenne, Wyoming 82003-1828.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Laura Steele, Land Law Examiner, or Melvin Schlagel, Coal Coordinator, at 307-775-6200.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This coal lease sale is being held in response to a lease by application filed by Bluegrass Coal Development Company (formerly, SMC Mining Company), a subsidiary of Zeigler Coal Holding Company of Evansville, Indiana. The coal resources to be offered consist of all reserves recoverable by surface mining methods in the following described lands located approximately 46 miles south-southeast of the City of Gillette, Wyoming, and about 13 miles southeast of Reno Junction just north of the Reno County Road:

T. 42 N., R. 70 W., 6th P.M., Wyoming
Sec. 4: Lots 5-16, 19 and 20;

Sec. 5: Lots 5-16;
T. 43 N., R. 70 W., 6th P.M., Wyoming
Sec. 32: Lots 9-16;
Sec. 33: Lots 11-14.
Containing 1,481.930 acres

All of the acreage offered has been determined to be suitable for mining. The surface estate of the tract is controlled by Arco Coal Company, Powder River Coal Company, and the U.S. Forest Service.

The North Rochelle Tract, located in Campbell County, Wyoming, is adjacent to the existing North Rochelle and Black Thunder Mines and contains surface minable coal reserves in the Wyodak seam currently being recovered in the existing mines. The Wyodak seam averages about 57 feet thick with an additional minable rider seam above the main seam that averages about 7 feet thick. There are no coal outcrops on the tract.

The overburden above the rider seam ranges from 100-200 feet thick while the overburden above the main Wyodak seam where no rider seam exists ranges from 175-250 feet thick. The total in-place stripping ratio (BCY/ton) of the coal seams is 2.91:1.

The tract contains an estimated 157,610,000 tons of minable coal in the Wyodak and rider seams. This estimate of minable reserves does not include any tonnage from localized seams or splits containing less than 5 feet of coal.

The coal is ranked as subbituminous C. The overall average quality is 8680 BTU/lb, 4.91 percent ash, 27.72 percent moisture, and .23 percent sulfur. These quality averages place the coal reserves near the low end of coal quality currently being mined in the far southern Powder River Basin south of Wright, Wyoming. The tract in this lease offering contains split estate lands. The surface is not held by a qualified surface owner as defined in the regulations, 43 CFR 3400.0-5.

The tract will be leased to the qualified bidder of the highest cash amount provided that the high bid equals or exceeds the fair market value of the tract. The minimum bid for the tract is \$100 per acre or fraction thereof. No bid that is less than \$100 per acre, or fraction thereof, will be considered. The bid should be sent by "Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested", or be hand delivered. The Cashier will issue a receipt for each hand-delivered bid. Bids received after 4 p.m., Monday, July 28, 1997, will not be considered. The minimum bid is not intended to represent fair market value. The fair market value of the tract will be determined by the Authorized Officer after the sale.